

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Reconsideration of this Application and entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication by the Examiner of the allowance of certain claims and the allowability of other claims if they were rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In order to advance prosecution of this application, and without conceding the propriety of the rejections presented by the Examiner in the Office Action under reply, Applicant has cancelled claims 1-18, 20, 21, 28-30, 34-40, 42-55, 57-59, 61-63 and 71-78, and has presented the subject matter of objected to claims 19, 22-27, 31-33, 41, 56 and 60 as either independent claims or dependent upon allowable independent claims.

**Conclusion**

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant believes all the pending claims are in condition for allowance and should be passed to issue. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 01-2525. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would in any way expedite the prosecution of the application, please do not hesitate to call the undersigned at telephone (707) 543-5021.

Respectfully submitted,

/Alan M. Krubiner, Reg. No. 26,289/  
Alan M. Krubiner  
Registration No. 26,289  
Attorney for Applicant

Medtronic Vascular, Inc.  
3576 Unocal Place  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403  
Facsimile No.: (707) 543-5420